

**Dave Young**  
District Attorney



17th Judicial District  
Adams & Broomfield Counties  
District Attorney's Office

August 17, 2015

Chief Jerry Garner  
Greeley Police Department  
2875 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Greeley, CO 80634

RE: The investigation of the incident involving Barbara Blanton-Marez DOB 10/11/75,  
occurring on June 3, 2015

Dear Chief Garner;

On June 3, 2015, the Brighton Police Department advised me of a high-speed police pursuit of a vehicle that began in Greeley, proceeded south down Highway 85, and ended just inside the Adams County border. At the conclusion of the pursuit, the driver of the suspect vehicle, Barbara Blanton-Marez, was found deceased. Ms. Blanton-Marez was suspected of a recent homicide out of Mesa County.

When first notified of this incident, there appeared to be a factual question as to whether lethal force was used by law enforcement officers employed by the Greeley Police Department engaged in this pursuit. Consequently, the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Critical Incident Team (CIT) conducted an investigation into the matter. The CIT presented the factual findings of the investigation to my office on August 5, 2015.

The investigation revealed that no lethal force was used by law enforcement officers involved in this pursuit. Rather, the evidence demonstrates that Ms. Blanton-Marez died as a result of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head shortly after the pursuit ended. Therefore, no criminal charges will be filed related to this incident.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if you would like to review the complete investigation.

Sincerely,

Dave Young  
District Attorney

C: Chief Clint Blackhurst  
Commander Dante Carbone  
Commander Kevin Currier  
Commander Dean Villano